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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2003, at 2 p.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2003

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Blessed, omniscient God, You know all about us; our strengths and weaknesses, our hopes and hurts, our dreams and disappointments. We say with the psalmist, "I commit my way to You, O Lord, and trust in You and You shall bring it to pass. I rest in You and wait patiently for You" (paraphrase of Psalm 37:5,7).

We confess that so often instead of waiting for You, we wait to commit our needs to You, clutching them in the icy grip of our reluctance to trust You. Help us to believe that what we commit to You will come to pass in Your way and in Your timing. We need the peace of mind and body that comes when we do Your will and leave the results to You.

Bless the Senators with a great day because they, and all of us who work with them, have decided to rest in Your presence and wait patiently for You to work out what is best in all the challenges and opportunities of this day. Only what You bring to pass will last. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:30 a.m., with the time equally divided and Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning there will be a period of morning business, as just mentioned, until the hour of 10:30 a.m., with the time equally divided and Senators permitted to speak and to introduce bills.

Shortly, I expect to have an agreement to allow us to go forward on the committee resolutions.

Following completion of the committee resolutions, we will turn to the appropriations bill. I understand amendments will be offered to that measure, and therefore Members should expect votes throughout the day today. If the committee resolutions take a little longer than expected—although, again, I anticipate us bringing those committee resolutions to a close

shortly—it is my hope to begin consideration of the appropriations bill in the interim, until we can reach a final agreement on the two committee membership resolutions.

For the remainder of the week, if the Senate makes substantial progress on the appropriations bill each day—and I should add it is going to take a lot of focus and a lot of discipline to address these appropriations bills today, tonight, tomorrow, tomorrow night, and throughout this week—it is still possible that we could finish this week. If we are able to finish our business this week, then we will proceed with the recess next week as originally planned. But, as I have said before, if these items are not completed this week, we will resume the legislative session next Tuesday and remain in session until those items are completed.

I thank all Members in advance for their cooperation. I had the opportunity to talk to the Democratic leader last night after we closed, and I think, once again, we are making substantial progress in addressing the issues before us, in terms of organization as well as the Nation's business as we address the appropriations bills.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWNBACK). The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. While the majority leader is on the floor, as a matter of house-keeping, we have a number of Senators who wish to speak for at least a half an hour. I am wondering if it would be OK

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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